

# Personal Protective Equipment

WAC 296-824-600

## Summary

### YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

To provide appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and make sure it's used properly

#### You must

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# Personal Protective Equipment

WAC 296-824-600

## Rule

WAC 296-824-60005

Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)



Note:

- Only properly trained employees should select PPE. Hazardous materials technicians and hazardous materials specialists can select PPE within the competencies specified in Table 4.
- Selection requirements in other PPE rules also apply, including:
  - WAC 296-800-160, Personal Protective Equipment
  - Chapter 296-842 WAC, Respirators
  - WAC 296-24-58505, Fire Brigades
  - Chapter 296-305 WAC, Safety Standards for Fire Fighting

### You must

- Provide employees with appropriate PPE and make sure it's used if hazards could be present.
  - Select PPE (such as respirators, gloves, protective suits and other PPE) based on:
    - An evaluation of the performance characteristics (such as breakthrough time and hazardous substance-specificity of the material or item) relevant to the requirements and limitations of the site.
    - Task-specific conditions and durations.
    - The hazards and potential hazards of the site (see Table 9, Selecting PPE for Specific Hazards).
  - Select totally encapsulating chemical protective (TECP) suits, as specified in Table 9, that:
    - Maintain positive air pressure.
    - Prevent inward test gas leakage of more than 0.5%.

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## Rule

### WAC 296-824-60005 (Continued)



#### Note:

Follow the manufacturer's recommended procedure for testing a TECP suit's ability to maintain positive air pressure and prevent inward gas leakage. Other established test protocols for these suits, for example NFPA 1991 and ASTM F1052-97, may also be used.

**Table 9**  
**Selecting PPE for Specific Hazards**

If...	Then...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Inhalation hazards could be present.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Positive-pressure (pressure-demand) self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA)</li><li>OR</li><li>· A decreased level of respiratory protection only when the incident commander determines, from air monitoring results, that employees will be adequately protected</li></ul>
Chemical exposure levels will create a substantial possibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Immediate death</li><li>· Immediate serious illness or injury</li><li>· Reduced ability to escape</li></ul>	Either positive-pressure (pressure-demand): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· SCBA</li><li>· Air-line respirators equipped with an escape air supply</li></ul>
Skin absorption of a hazardous substance may result in a substantial possibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Immediate death</li><li>· Immediate serious illness or injury</li><li>· Reduced ability to escape</li></ul>	Protection equivalent to Level A including a totally encapsulating chemical protective (TECP) suit

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# Personal Protective Equipment

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## Rule

WAC 296-824-60010

Control hazards created by personal protective equipment (PPE)

### You must

- Control hazards created by the use of PPE, including:
  - Heat stress due to extremely high temperatures.
  - Any other employee health hazard and consideration.

WAC 296-824-60015

Use personal protective equipment (PPE) properly

### You must

- (1) Make sure employees inspect PPE before, during and after use, following your plan's procedures.
- (2) Make sure employees put on (don) and remove (doff) PPE following your plan's procedures.
- (3) Make sure employees don't interchange self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) air cylinders from different manufacturers, unless all of the following apply:
  - There is a life-saving emergency
  - You need a supplemental air supply
  - The cylinders are of the same capacity and pressure rating.
- (4) Make sure compressed air cylinders used with SCBAs meet the testing and service life requirements of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT). Search at: <http://www.dot.gov>

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## Rule

WAC 296-824-60015 (Continued)



Note:

You can also check with the cylinder manufacturers to obtain USDOT test and service life specifications.

### You must

- (5) Make sure PPE is maintained in a safe and reliable condition using your plan's procedures.

PPE maintenance includes:

- Decontamination
- Cleaning
- Inspection
- Identification of damage or defects
- Parts repair or replacement
- Storage or disposal

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# Notes

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